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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/745,303	12/26/2000	Tsutomu Sasaki	001715	2061

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EXAMINER

ELLIS, KEVIN L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2188

DATE MAILED: 03/10/2004

15

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Advisory Action

Application No.

09/745,303

Applicant(s)

SASAKI ET AL.

Examiner

Kevin L. Ellis

Art Unit

2188

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 25 February 2004 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]

- a) ☐ The period for reply expires _____ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- b) ☒ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection. ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. ☐ A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
2. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
- (a) ☐ they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 - (b) ☐ they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);
 - (c) ☐ they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 - (d) ☐ they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____.

3. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
4. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
5. ☒ The a) ☐ affidavit, b) ☐ exhibit, or c) ☒ request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: see attached.
6. ☐ The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
7. ☒ For purposes of Appeal, ~~the proposed amendment(s) is/are not allowable because the amendment(s) is/are not directed to the issues raised by the final rejection.~~

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____.

Claim(s) objected to: _____.

Claim(s) rejected: 1-4.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

8. ☐ The drawing correction filed on _____ is a) ☐ approved or b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
9. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.
10. ☐ Other: _____

Detailed Action

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 2/25/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant again argues the bit rate of the memory versus the buffer memory. The differing bit rates in relation to the current consumption would be met by Kawasaki et al. There are only three scenarios possible with regard to the bit rate:

1. memory bit rate < buffer bit rate
2. memory bit rate = buffer bit rate
3. memory bit rate > buffer bit rate

In order for the power savings Kawasaki et al. discloses to happen, the only scenario that can be true is the third one. With the first and second scenario the buffer would never fill up with data because it is being read out of the buffer at a greater or equal to bit rate that data is being read from the memory. This would mean that the memory would always be powered on in order to access more data. With the third scenario since the bit rate of data being read from the memory is greater than the bit rate of data being read from the buffer, the buffer can be filled with data and then read from the buffer while the memory is powered down resulting in a power savings. Thus the combination of Robinson et al. and Kawasaki et al. suggests a relationship between the current consumption and the respective data transfer rates of the memory and the buffer.

Kevin L. Ellis
Primary Examiner

Kevin L. Ellis